TITLE 86: REVENUE

PART 130
RETAILERS' OCCUPATION TAX

SUBPART H: BOOKS AND RECORDS

Section 130.801   General Requirements

a) Every person engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property at retail in this State shall keep records and books of all sales and purchases of tangible personal property, including all sales and purchase invoices, purchase orders, merchandise records and requisitions, inventory records prepared as of December 31 of each year or otherwise annually, as has been the custom in the specific trade, credit memos, debit memos, bills of lading, shipping records, and all other records pertaining to any and all purchases and sales of goods whether or not the retailer believes them to be taxable under the Act; and the retailer shall also keep summaries, recapitulations, totals, journal entries, ledger accounts, accounts receivable records, accounts payable records, statements, tax returns with all schedules or pertinent working papers used in connection with the preparation of such returns, and other documents listing, summarizing or pertaining to such sales, purchases, inventory changes, shipments or other transactions.   For a description of what records constitute the minimum required, including the use of machine-sensible records and electronic data interchange, see Section 130.805 of this Part.

b) Retailers must maintain complete books and records covering receipts from all sales and distinguishing taxable from nontaxable receipts.

c) Such books and records must clearly indicate and explain all the information (deductions as well as gross receipts) required for tax returns and shall, at all times during business hours of the day, be subject to inspection and audit by the Department or its duly authorized agents and employees.

d) If a taxpayer retains records required to be retained under this Section in both machine-sensible and hard-copy formats, the taxpayer shall, upon request, make the records available to the Department in machine-sensible format in accordance with Section 130.805(b)(5).

e) Such books and records must be kept in the English language.

f) Such books and records must be kept within Illinois except in instances where a business has several branches, with the head office being located outside Illinois, and

where all books and records have been regularly kept outside the State at such head office. Under such circumstances, upon written permission from the Department, books and records may be kept outside Illinois, but the taxpayer must, within a reasonable time after notification by the Department, make all pertinent books, records, papers and documents available at some point within Illinois for the purpose of such inspection and audit as the Department may deem necessary.

g)   It shall be presumed that all sales of tangible personal property are subject to tax under the Act until the contrary is established, and the burden of proving that a transaction is not taxable shall be upon the person who would be required to remit the tax to the Department if such transaction is taxable. In the course of any audit or investigation or hearing by the Department with reference to a given taxpayer, if the Department finds that the taxpayer lacks documentary evidence needed to support the taxpayer's claim to exemption from tax, the Department is authorized to notify the taxpayer in writing to produce such evidence, and the taxpayer shall have 60 days subject to the right in the Department to extend this period either on request for good cause shown or on its own motion from the date when such notice is sent to the taxpayer by certified or registered mail (or delivered to the taxpayer if the notice is served personally) in which to obtain and produce such evidence for the Department's inspection and audit, failing which the matter shall be closed, and the transaction shall be conclusively presumed to be taxable.

(Source: Amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 15104, effective October 2, 2000)